

In re: Application No. 09/396,530

Filed: 9/15/99

Title: A Method For Improving
Bowler's Control

Group Art Unit: 3711

Examiner: W.M. Pierce

Attorney Docket 99-1001

Inventors: Randall A. Addington,
et al..



To: The Assistant Commissioner Of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Declaration Under 37 CFR 132

1. I, W. Robert Addington, II, DO, make this Declaration.

All of the statements made in this Declaration are made with respect to the patentability of Claim 1-32.

2. I can say as a Board Certified Physician in Rehabilitation Medicine and an expert in musculoskeletal medicine, that the recited claims 1- 32 describe a finger pad shield opposed to, in contact with the bowler's finger pad, and forming a contact area with the finger pad. The finger pad shield placed between the force of the bowling ball against the finger pad spreads that force over the contact area made by the finger pad shield with the bowler's finger pad, as recited in Claims 1-32, when the bowler's maximum force is applied to the bowling ball at the moment of release. It is at this moment, when the bowler applies the maximum force to the finger hole of the ball to lift the ball at its release, and the force of the bowling ball against the finger pad shield and the finger pad is the greatest. It is as this moment of release that the force against the contact area made by the finger pad shield with the finger pad is spread by the finger pad shield over the area of contact of the finger pad shield made with the finger pad. The finger pad shield is made sufficiently rigid to substantially

resist any flexing or deformation from that force of the bowling ball so that force against the finger pad shield is spread over the contact area. The force which the finger pad shield resists is limited by the conventional limit of bowling ball weights and the limit of muscular skeletal development. In the sport of bowling, a bowler will choose a ball suitable to that bowler's muscular skeletal development and within the limited weight allowed by bowling authorities such as the American Bowling Congress. While a stronger bowler at the upper end of the limit of muscular skeletal development, may prefer a heavier ball, the force applied from the bowling ball to the finger pad will be limited by the maximum weight of a bowling ball and the maximum force which can be applied to the bowling ball within a limit of muscular skeletal development.

3. There is a limit to muscular skeletal development and a maximum force with respect to the limit of that muscular development. The recited claims would be understood by one skilled in the art of bowling and bowling devices, at the time this application was filed, as a bowler's maximum force within that limit of muscular skeletal development applied to the ball to lift the ball at its release.

4. All of the foregoing statements are made upon information or are made upon information or belief. All of the foregoing statements are made under knowledge of the punishments and penalties for perjury, under Title 18 of the Criminal Code of the United States of America.


W. Robert Addington, II DO

Date: 9/29/2000